

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 115910

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OAS

SUBJECT:OASGA - PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS, FRIDAY, MAY 16;
TRADE ACT/HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT

USDEL D-8

1. AT BEGINNING OF PRIVATE SESSION FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MINISTERS FIRST DISCUSSED THE RESOLUTION PROPOSED JOINTLY BY VENEZUELA, ECUADOR AND PERU. AFTER RELATIVELY LITTLE DISCUSSION, THEY DECIDED TO REFER THE RESOLUTION TO COMMITTEE II (WHICH CURRENTLY WORKING ON TWO TRADE ACT RESOLUTIONS, ONE SUBMITTED BY MEXICO AND ONE BY ARGENTINA), AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT WORK COULD BE COMPLETED BY MONDAY MORNING. THE MINISTERS DIRECTED COMMITTEE II TO ATTEMPT TO FIND LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH THE US AND TO THE LATINS, OR AT LEAST TO SO HARMONIZE VIEWPOINTS THAT A VOTE ON THE RESOLUTION WOULD BE AS CLOSE TO UNANIMOUS AS POSSIBLE.

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2. COSTA RICA THEN SUBMITTED A REVISED VERSION OF ITS

RESOLUTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, WHICH THE MINISTERS FOUND
GENERALLY MORE ACCEPTABLE THAN THE INITIAL VERSION.
ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS SPOKE FOR THE US IN A PREPARED

STATEMENT WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY RELEASED TO THE PRESS
(SEE USIA WIRELESS FILE FOR MAY 16), IN WHICH HE DEPLORED
VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS WHEREVER THEY OCCUR, BUT COM-
MENDED CHILE'S COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE. CHILE
MADE A RATHER LENGTHY, AND AT TIMES EMOTIONAL, DEFENSE OF
ITS POSITION, IN WHICH IT CONFIRMED THAT CHILE WOULD WEL-
COME THE UN STUDY TEAM'S VISIT TO CHILE TO EXAMINE THE
ISSUE, BUT REMINDED THE MINISTERS THAT THERE ARE OTHER
COUNTRIES WHERE HUMAN RIGHTS ARE NOT RESPECTED, SUCH AS
CUBA AND THE SOVIET UNION, BUT WHICH REFUSE TO ALLOW SUCH
ON-THE-SPOT INVESTIGATIONS. JAMAICA INSISTED THAT THERE
BE NO DEFERRING OF THE MATTER SINCE "JUSTICE DELAYED IS
JUSTICE DENIED", AND ASSERTED THAT THE MATTER IS NOT ONE
OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY, BUT OF HUMAN BEINGS. AFTER REL-
ATIVELY BRIEF INTERVENTIONS BY SEVERAL OTHER DELEGATIONS,
THE CHAIRMAN REFERRED THE DRAFT RESOLUTION TO COMMITTEE I.
KISSINGER

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